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Vol. CCIII, No. 2644
OCTOBER 14, 1950

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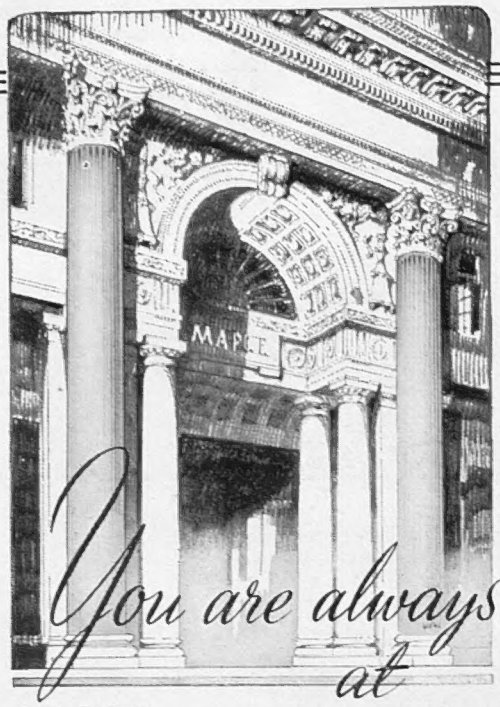

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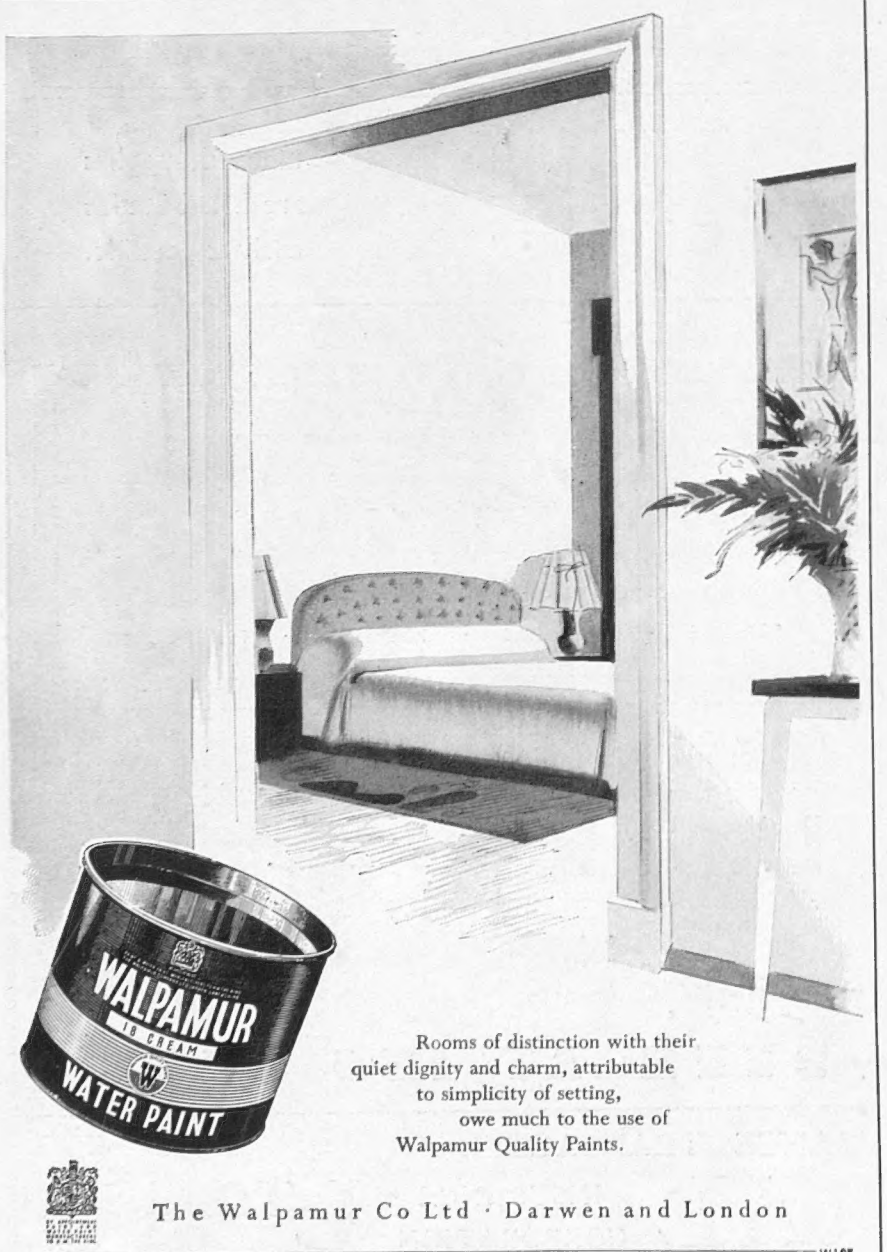

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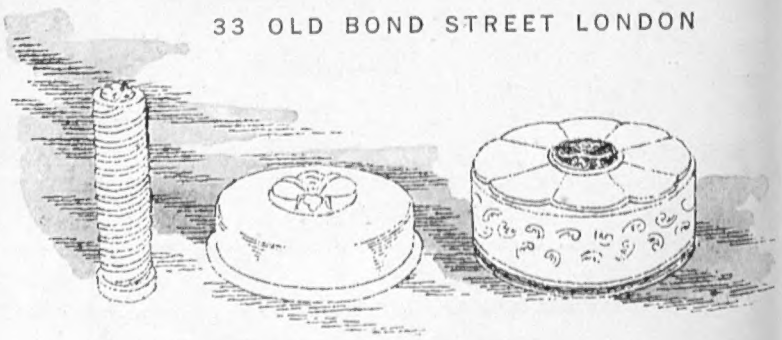

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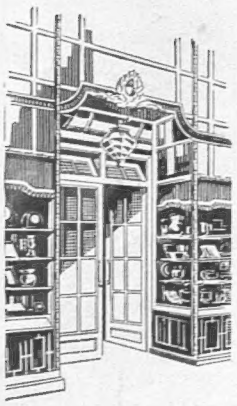

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Volume CCIII No. 2644 The SPHERE, London, October 14. 1950

The SPHERE
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED "THE GRAPHIC"
THE EMPIRE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

HOME FROM THE KOREAN WAR — THE CRUISER "BELFAST" SAILING UP THE ENGLISH CHANNEL EN ROUTE TO CHATHAM AT THE END OF HER TWO YEAR COMMISSION IN THE FAR EAST: During the latter part of her time in Pacific waters, the 10,000 ton cruiser carried out bombardment of the Korean coast and patrols, without suffering damage or casualties. Union Jacks were painted on the tops of gun turrets as a means of identification in the battle areas.

One of the many British warships which have been taking part in the Korean campaign, as part of a United Nations Task Force, is the 10,000 ton cruiser H.M.S. "Belfast" which returned to Chatham at the end of last week with her paying-off pendant fluttering over her quarter deck. "Belfast", which has come unscathed through the Korean battles, has returned to recommission with a new crew, replacing the crew which has served in the Far East for the last two years. She is also to undergo a refit at Chatham. Once this is completed and a fresh crew drafted to her, the cruiser will return to the Pacific, probably next month.

Postage—Inland, 2d.; Canada, 1½d.; Elsewhere Abroad, 2½d.

PERSONALITIES OF THE WEEK

(Owing to circumstances beyond the Editor's control it has not been possible to publish the usual weekly article by THE OLD STAGER. *We shall resume publication of this feature as soon as circumstances permit.)*

A Monument to Smuts.—Last Saturday Mr. Strauss, who succeeded General Smuts as Parliamentary leader of the United Party, proposed that a statue of his old chief should be erected on the 3,500 ft. summit of Table-Mountain, where "he could stand triumphant, far above the troubles of the world". The suggestion will surely be welcome in this country, for here in England we viewed Jan Christiaan Smuts as a world statesman, above the hurly burly of the hustings. In Africa "Slim Jannie" was known as a devoted lover of the countryside, and his fondness for the Table-Mountain climb, that popular Sunday pastime of Cape Town folk, was demonstrated time and time again, notably when the late Duke of Kent made his African tour and he took the Prince on a breathless climb to the summit. From Cape Town, Cecil Rhodes beckons northwards—"There is your Hinterland". From Table-Mountain Smuts will point to the stars.

Man of the Hour.—From the fire of battle in South Korea General Douglas MacArthur emerges with, if possible, enhanced military prestige. He has kept his promises to the United Nations, and he has not, at the moment of writing, exceeded his mandate, although coming dangerously near to doing so on his Formosa visit. This soldier has travelled far and fast since his Phillipine days, since Bataan, the Pacific War, but a patient democracy would very soon tell him if political ambitions were to outrun military judgement at this critical phase in world affairs.

The New American Ambassador.— Mr. Kennedy brought to London a large family, Mr. Douglas, a daughter of charm and personality; but Mr. Gifford, the new Ambassdor, will be accompanied only by his wife. The new Ambassador is a quiet New Englander, and his hobby is in the same vein. He paints butterflies in watercolour. Mr. Gifford's life has been spent in the service of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company ("the world's largest business" and "America's safest investment"). In two World Wars he was on the United States War Prodution Board.

Margate in Retrospect.—The Jubilee Year Conference of the Labour Party did not show many changes either in personalities or policies. Mr. Bevin, as ever, won his resounding triumph in the department of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Bevan, as ever, was not to be denied his success in the realm of housing. The member for Ebbw Vale again won the male popularity stakes, as reflected in the polling for the Executive, but Dr. Edith Summerskill had this year to take second place to friendly, melodious-voiced Margaret Herbison, Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Scottish Office.

They Never Come Back !—Tommy Farr, the heavy-weight who all but beat Joe Louis in his prime and who at 36 has staged a come-back, has a ten round contest against Carl Nielsen, the Danish heavy-weight, at Leicester on November 6th. There will be thousands there to cheer him on, because this Welshman, supreme in fighting spirit, has in one fight in his new career already re-captured the imagination of British people. "Stick it the Welsh" is an old colloquial cry. Farr has given it added meaning, and has shown, too, that once in a while "they do come back".

THE GAS STRIKE SENSATION OF THE WEEK— POLICE MINGLING WITH THE CROWD OUTSIDE THE BOW STREET MAGISTRATES' COURT WHERE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SOUGHT ADMITTANCE AND SUBSEQUENTLY HEARD TEN OF THE STRIKERS SENTENCED TO ONE MONTH'S IMPRISONMENT EACH: Eight of the sentenced men, all of whom appealed against their sentences, were members of the strike committee. The strike ended last Monday at all gasworks.

JUNKETINGS AT MARGATE—MR. ANEURIN BEVAN, THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, AND HIS WIFE JENNIE LEE, MEMBER FOR CANNOCK, ARE THE CENTRE OF A GAY THRONG AT THE MAYOR OF MARGATE'S RECEPTION: Other pictures taken during the Jubilee Year Conference of the Labour Party appear on pages 68 and 69 of this issue.

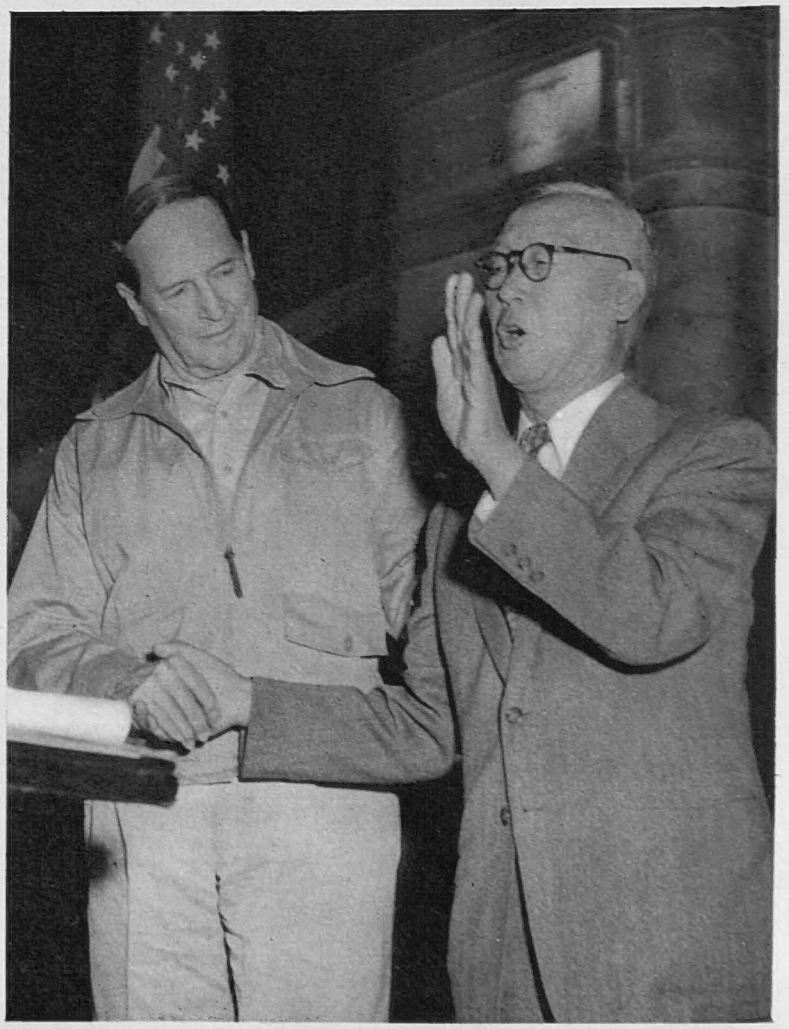
THE RETURN OF GRACIE FIELDS: The veteran variety star was given an enthusiastic welcome by a large audience at the London Palladium. After 35 minutes of delightful singing she ended with "Sally", the tune associated with her for so long, and a dozen bouquets of roses and white carnations were then brought on to the stage.

PRESIDENT RHEE Returns to HIS CAPITAL

WITH GENERAL MACARTHUR

THE WAR SCARRED CAPITOL BUILDING IN THE RETAKEN CITY OF SEOUL, CAPITAL OF THE SOUTH KOREAN REPUBLIC: In the Capitol building, after a victorious procession through the rubble-strewn streets, General MacArthur, as Commander of the United Nations Forces, officially handed Seoul back into the hands of President Rhee, a ceremony which is shown in the picture reproduced below on right. While the ceremony was taking place, U.S. Marines were still dealing with snipers in Seoul.

A MARINE HEADQUARTERS IS SET UP IN THE GROUNDS OF THE FORMER ROYAL PALACE AT SEOUL: Jeeps outside the picturesque, but battered building. The roof was damaged during an American air attack at the start of the Korean campaign. This Marine unit was one of the first into Seoul and was heavily engaged in mopping-up operations.



"IN BEHALF OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND I AM HAPPY TO RESTORE TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, THE SEAT OF YOUR GOVERNMENT": With these words General MacArthur told 75-year-old President Rhee, who had fled from Seoul on June 27, that he was once again master in South Korea.

THE START OF EXERCISE "EMPEROR", THE LARGEST AND LONGEST AIR DEFENCE EXERCISE YET HELD OVER THIS COUNTRY: A Flight Lieutenant of the Royal Air Force briefing his crew in the cockpit of a Superfortress on Marham Airfield, Norfolk, before taking part in the eight day battle which has been waged over most of England and Wales. For the first time fighter Squadrons from Norway and Denmark have been taking part, as well as units of the Belgian, Dutch and United States Air Forces. Battles at heights of nearly 40,000 ft. were waged between jet-propelled aircraft at the start of the exercise, and the height of interception was mostly in excess of 29,000 ft.

Above:—ONE OF THE R.A.F.'s WASHINGTON AIRCRAFT IS PREPARED FOR BATTLE: Mechanics at work on the great Superfortress at Marham Airfield, Norfolk. It is one of seventy Superfortresses which the Royal Air Force has received from the United States, and which are now in service in this country. Their main targets were in London.

Below:—VAMPIRE JET PILOTS RUN TO THEIR MACHINES: Pilots at North Weald Air[field] take a flying start on the tarmac before going up to combat the incoming bom[bers] during Exercise "Emperor". The fighters had to climb to great heights, at times [over] ft., to make contact with the enemy, Superfortresses which they caught flying

THE EXERCISE WAS ALSO VALUABLE IN THE TRAINING OF GROUND CREWS: 4000 lb. "cookies" being brought to a Washington aircraft of the R.A.F. during bombing-up operations. The main purpose of the exercise was to implement new techniques of interception, and the men of R.A.F. Fighter Command certainly had their work cut out in finding the enemy at vast altitudes.

A NEW BATTLE OF BRITAIN WAGED AT 40,000 FT.

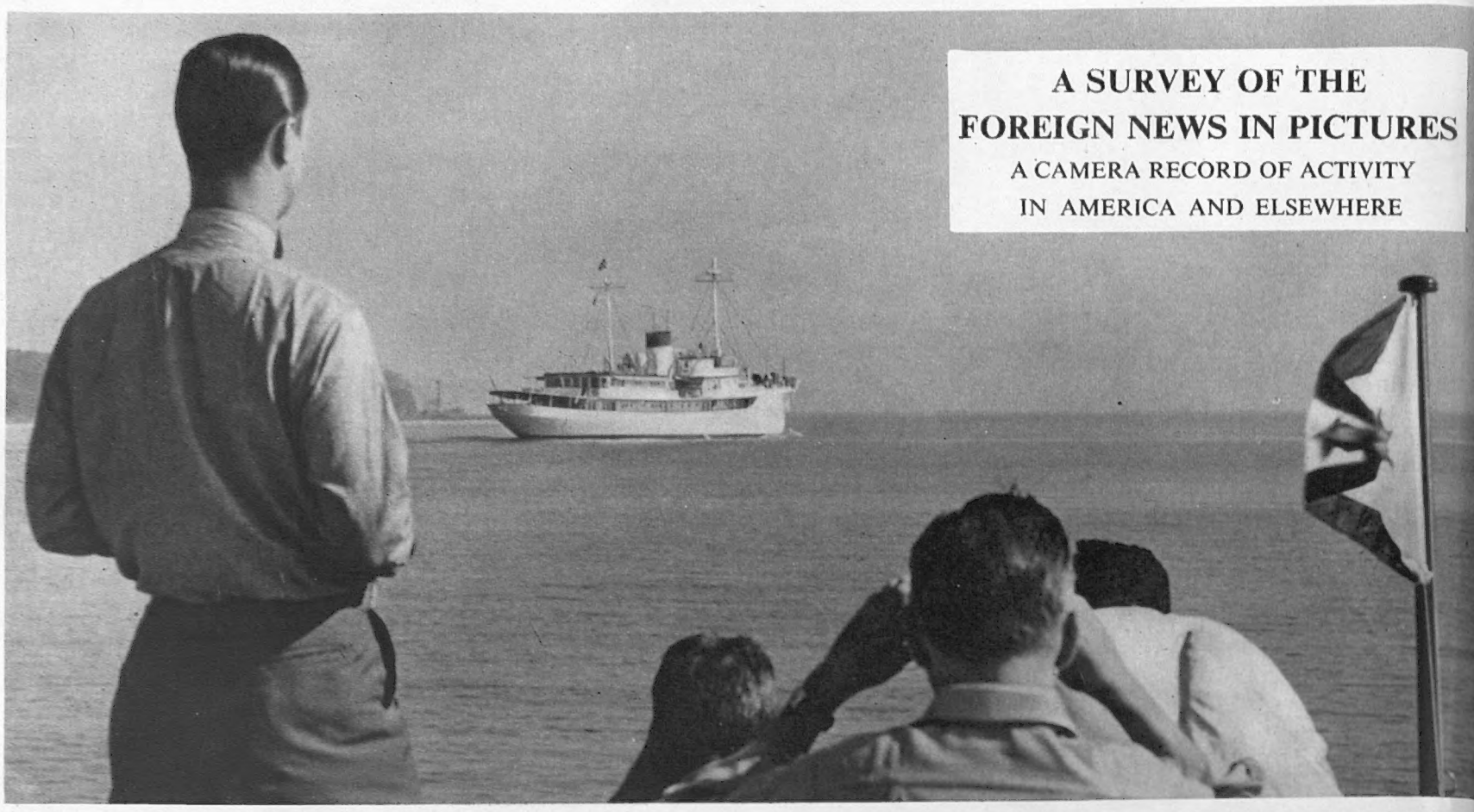
FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS OF SEVERAL NATIONS TAKE PART IN AN IMPRESSIVE EIGHT DAY EXERCISE

A ROYAL AIR FORCE GUNNER TAKES POST IN ONE OF THE WASHINGTON'S: The Sergeant is seen checking equipment before taking off from Marham Airfield. The Washingtons flew out over the East Coast, and attempted to reach London via the Thames Estuary.

THE ACK ACK GIRLS PLAY THEIR PART IN THE DEFENSIVE SCHEME: Members of a Predictor team in action during night operations "somewhere in England". The Predictor, which lays for angle and bearing on to the target, can be operated visually or it can be linked automatically to the Radar equipment. It was this combination that proved such a deadly force against flying bombs in the Second World War.

A SURVEY OF THE FOREIGN NEWS IN PICTURES

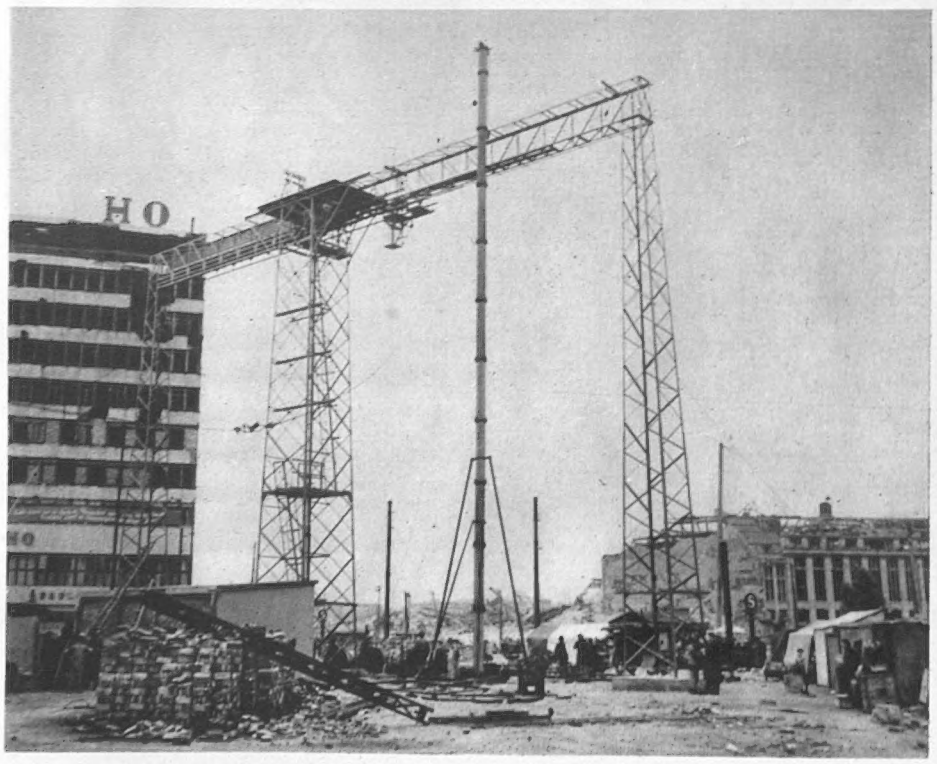
A CAMERA RECORD OF ACTIVITY IN AMERICA AND ELSEWHERE



THE PRESIDENT SETS OUT FOR A CRUISE IN CHESAPEAKE BAY: Reporters watching from the press boat "Commander" as Mr. Truman's yacht, "Williamsburg", left her moorings at the Pautuxent Naval Air Station. The President was starting a brief spell away from the cares of state.

COLONEL BEN C. LIMB AT FLUSHING MEADOW: The Foreign Minister of South Korea listening-in to the momentous debate of the United Nations Political Committee when the Soviet proposal to invite North Korea to the Council table was rejected. Delegates also heard MacArthur's demand for the North's surrender.

INDONESIA ENTERS THE U.N. FAMILY: Lambertus N. Palar (seated at left), chairman the Indonesian Delegation to U.N., listens to a speech of welcome by Dr. G. J. Heuven Goedhart, vice-chairman of the Netherlands Delegation, as Indonesia comes the 60th. member of the United Nations.



HEADLINED NEWS ABOVE THE HOUSE TOPS OF BERLIN: To carry news items from the Western world far into the Russian sector of Berlin, this huge steel scaffolding is being erected by American officials on Potsdammer Platz, the junction of the American, British and Russian sectors. Electrically illuminated lettering will shine out across the "Iron Curtain".

FRANCE CONTINUES HER LONG STRUGGLE IN SOUTH EAST ASIA: Two French [illegible] taking a young Indo-Chinese lad prisoner during recent fighting in South Viet in the area between Baria and Cap Saint-Jacques. Of recent weeks the French had a number of successes after many months of bitter experiences.

THE DARK UNFATHOMED CAVES OF ARRENAZ: Members of the Swiss Society of Speleologists are seen descending by rope through the narrow entrance to one of the great caves at Naye in the Plain of Arrenaz. They were out to beat the record descent of 450 ft.

PRELUDE TO THE BRAZILIAN ELECTION: A hoarding in Rio de Janeiro plastered with portraits of political leaders on the eve of the poll. Brazil has now elected a President and new administration for the next five years. There are thirteen parties and the electorate is estimated at over ten million.

THIS WAS THE WORK OF 400 LB. OF DYNAMITE: A 237-ft. smoke stack at Durango, Colorado, being brought to earth in an explosion. The stack, built in 1906, had begun to lean at a dangerous angle and was destroyed as a safety measure.

HE COMING OF THE MAHDI: This Egyptian girl, Tawhida Ahmed Hamdi, 27-year-old daughter of an Egyptian Government engineer, announced last April that she would be the Virgin Mother of El Mahdi, the prophet, according to Moslem tradition, who will announce the second coming of Christ.

AMISHMEN GO BEHIND BARS: These six bearded members of the Amish of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, are seen entering Lancaster County Gaol to serve sentences of three days apiece. They decided to go to prison rather than pay two dollar fines levied against them for refusing to send their children to school. Their children are all between the ages of 14 and 16.

THE WALKING CASUALTIES RETURN TO BASE: Men of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders being helped down a road to a waiting jeep after the accidental "straffing" of their unit by American planes which mistook the hill on which they delivered an attack with jellied petroleum bombs. About fifty men in all were injured.

TRAGEDY ON THE NAKTONG

EVACUATING THE WOUNDED AFTER THE ACCIDENTAL BOMBING OF BRITISH TROOPS BY AMERICANS

THE STRETCHER CASES ARE BROUGHT BACK TO THE NAKTONG FROM THE HILL IN THE FRONT LINE WHERE THE AMERICAN PETROLEUM BOMB ATTACK TOOK PLACE: Top—A Lieutenant of the Argylls accompanying a stretcher case. Centre—A wounded British soldier about to be carried across the river. Below—A stretcher case lifted down the shallow bank. The wounded were brought down in relays, the first of them while their comrades were still fighting in the line.

WOUNDED OF THE ARGYLLS AWAIT EVACUATION AFTER THEIR ORDEAL BY FIRE: With the wounded are comrades who accompanied them out of the front line, but not before the Argylls had consolidated their position following the mistaken American attack and the subsequent Communist advance of 1000 yards.

A WOUNDED COMRADE IS CARRIED ACROSS THE NAKTONG BY MEN OF THE ARGYLLS: On the far shore vehicles were waiting to take the wounded to base. The casualties were fewer than at first feared.

SCOTS GUARDS AT FALKLAND PALACE

Commemorating the First Presentation of Colours

MILITARY CEREMONIAL WITHIN THE PRECINCTS OF FALKLAND PALACE, FIFE: To commemorate the tercentenary of the first presentation of colours to the Scots Guards on the same spot by Charles II, a pair of Scots Guard's regimental colours was laid up at the ceremony depicted here. The colours, which were presented to the 2nd Battalion in 1886, were handed to the kilted Hereditary Keeper of Falkland, Major M.D. Chrichton-Stuart, by Viscount Dalrymple. The colours will hang in the main gallery of the palace.

THE COLOURS ARE LAID UP: Colonel the Viscount Dalrymple, who comnands the Scots Guards, hands over the colours of the 2nd battalion of the regiment to Major M. D.D. Chrichton-Stuart, Hereditary Keeper of Falkland Palace at the Fife ceremony.

THE COLOURS ARE MARCHED THROUGH THE ANCIENT ARCHWAY INTO THE PALACE GROUNDS: The colour party marching at Falkland Palace before the handing-over ceremony. The palace survives very much as it was rebuilt in the reign of King James V of Scotland.

HIS MAJESTY'S TELEGRAPH SHIP "MONARCH", FLAGSHIP OF BRITAIN'S CABLE-LAYING FLEET: "Monarch", a vessel of 8,050 tons, and the biggest cable-laying ship afloat, is a considerable dollar-earner for Britain, operating, as she does, on charter in many parts of the world, notably off the coasts of South America. In this, the centenary year of submarine cable-laying, "Monarch" has spent about two thirds of her time on charter. She is propelled by reciprocating steam engines, which give better astern perfomance.

KING OF CABLE SHIPS

H.M.T.S. "Monarch" Proves Herself A Big Earner of Hard Currency in Operations All Over the World

Although no-one has yet suggested issuing His Britannic Majesty's Postmaster with an Admiral's hat, he is in charge of a very fine little fleet, rapidly becoming well-known in many ports very far from home. They are the G.P.O. cable ships, as much a part of the Post Office as any little red postal van dodging up a side street, which are engaged in the laying and maintenance of submarine cables for Britain and much of the rest of the world.

Though there can be no question of monopoly, the G.P.O's flagship H.M.T.S. "Monarch", 8,050 tons and the biggest cable ship afloat, is one of the most efficient cable ships operating in the cable laying business.

This happy state of affairs, which means considerable hard currency for Britain, is very likely to continue for a number of years for a number of reasons. The centenary of submarine cables has taken place this year and during the whole of the past 100 years more than 90 per cent of the cable laid has been British-made, and that is true of 95 per cent of current production. Of the remaining 5 per cent, most of the core is British-made—and such experience may be expected to continue to attract buyers. On the laying side, "Monarch" is a new ship and it would be uneconomic, with a limited amount of world cable work to be expected, for anyone to build another of anything like her size.

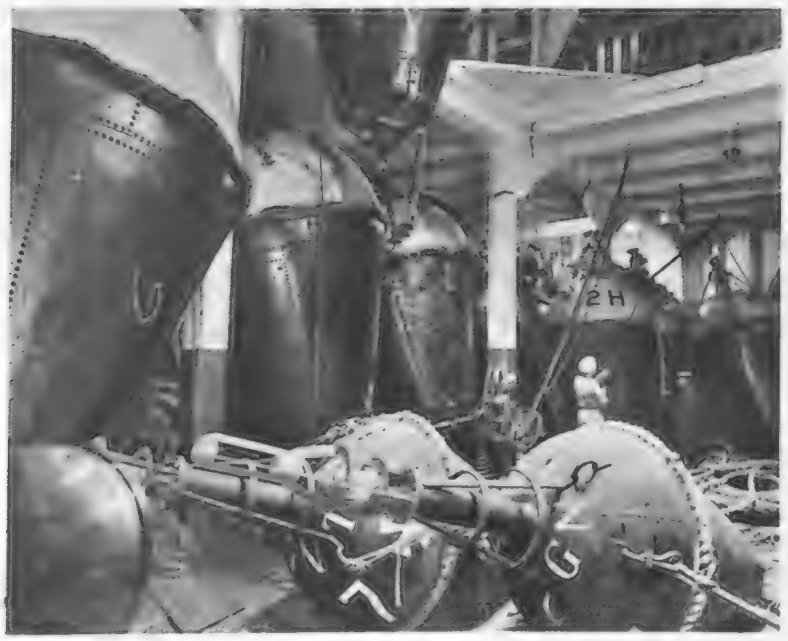
The Post Office, who have never been known for their liking for long odds, played well when they decided to lay down the big ship towards the end of the war. Circumstances have proved them right in that the maintenance back log of five war years, added to new requirements, look like keeping the fleet in full commission for some time to come. Technical advances have come to the stage when the great trans-ocean telephone cables may be expected soon, and "Monarch" is one of the ships best able to cope when the time comes.

Naturally, the big ship is used for the big job. Though charter costs are higher she has the advantage of being able to carry on with her work in bad weather which would send smaller craft scurrying for shelter.

"Monarch" gets the jobs because, from a cost and every other point of view, she can work more efficiently than her competitors.

THE START OF AN OPERATION IN DANISH WATERS: The shore end of the new cable has just been hauled over "Monarch's" bow sheaves so that it may be spliced to 300 miles of cable in the ship's tanks.

SUPERB NAVIGATION IS THE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL CABLE-LAYING: Third Officer D. P. F. Chisholm is seen engaged in plotting the "Monarch's" position by Decca Navigator. Dead reckoning is no use at slow speeds when a course has to be correct to a matter of yards. At each end of its lay "Monarch" has to find a buoy often anchored in a featureless stretch of sea, out of sight of land.



BUOYS STACKED IN THE HOLD OF THE "MONARCH": In the foreground are seen two Danish buoys which were picked up at the shore end before the recent cable-laying operation between England and Denmark. The new cable has cost the Danes about £500,000, but it replaces four of the existing seven routes.

OPERATING THE AUTOMATIC SOUNDING DEVICE ABOARD "THE MONARCH": This device keeps a record of the sea's bottom on the actual path chosen for the cable-laying operators. It is first used on the outward journey when the ship steams over the course on which she will lay the cable on the return journey.

A MARKER BUOY IS HOISTED INBOARD AS THE SHORE END OF THE NEW DANISH CABLE IS PICKED UP: A seaman, with safety line attached, is hauled in with the buoy. There are special winches at port and starboard for hauling in buoys on the cable-laying ship, and they are then stored below decks.

CABLE WATCH IS MAINTAINED IN TURN BY THE DECK OFFICERS DURING CABLE LAYING: The scale on the right shows the strain on the cable as it is paid out from the "Monarch's" tanks. The weight of the cable, a co-axial cable of the latest type, and taking the place of four other cables, is about ten tons per mile.

THE FINAL SPLICE IS MADE ON THE FOREDECK: At this vital moment the cable from shore is linked to the miles of cable lying below decks in the "Monarch". Good seamanship is important as, with cable trailing over the bow sheaves, the ship must not be permitted to swing enough to cause a severe kink.

LOADING CABLE INTO THE TANKS OF THE CABLE SHIP "MONARCH": This task often takes weeks, but if the greatest possible care is taken at this stage a multitude of troubles can be avoided when the "paying out" begins. The ship cannot afford tangles or breaks when under way. With a charter price of about £1000 per day mistakes of any kind can be very expensive for the customer.

Above:-

THE TANKS LEAD THE WAY INTO THE HEART OF SEOUL: American Marines on their way through the battered capital during mopping-up operations. Only ten days after the Inchon landing the Peoples' Army began to crack up, the Marines and infantry of the Tenth Corps battering ways into Seoul from north, south and west. Four day's fighting followed.

KOREA

THE ASSAULT ON SEOUL

THE FINAL PHASES OF THE CAMPAIGN IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA

Below :-

A KNOCKED-OUT RUSSIAN TANK : American soldiers seated in the shadow of the monster tank, one of six destroyed during the assault on the city of Seoul. In the four days fighting the Communists were blasted off the hills within the city, and snipers were driven out of buildings with machine guns and flamethrowers. Later MacArthur visited Seoul.

AFTERMATH AT INCHON

INVASION CRAFT LEFT HIGH AND DRY

STRANDED HIGH AND DRY ON THE CAPSIZED HULL OF A MERCHANT SHIP: An American medium landing craft, which was used at the invasion of Inchon, stepping-stone to the capital city of Seoul, seen in **the precarious position in which it was placed by the 30 ft. tides in Inchon Bay.** At its peak the tide at Inchon drops one foot every ten minutes, and its speed is only surpassed by the mighty tides in the Bay of Fundy on the North American coast. The nature of the tides at Inchon made it vital that the initial assault be launched in the space of thirty minutes. The second wave of men went in nearly eleven hours later, but during the same day.

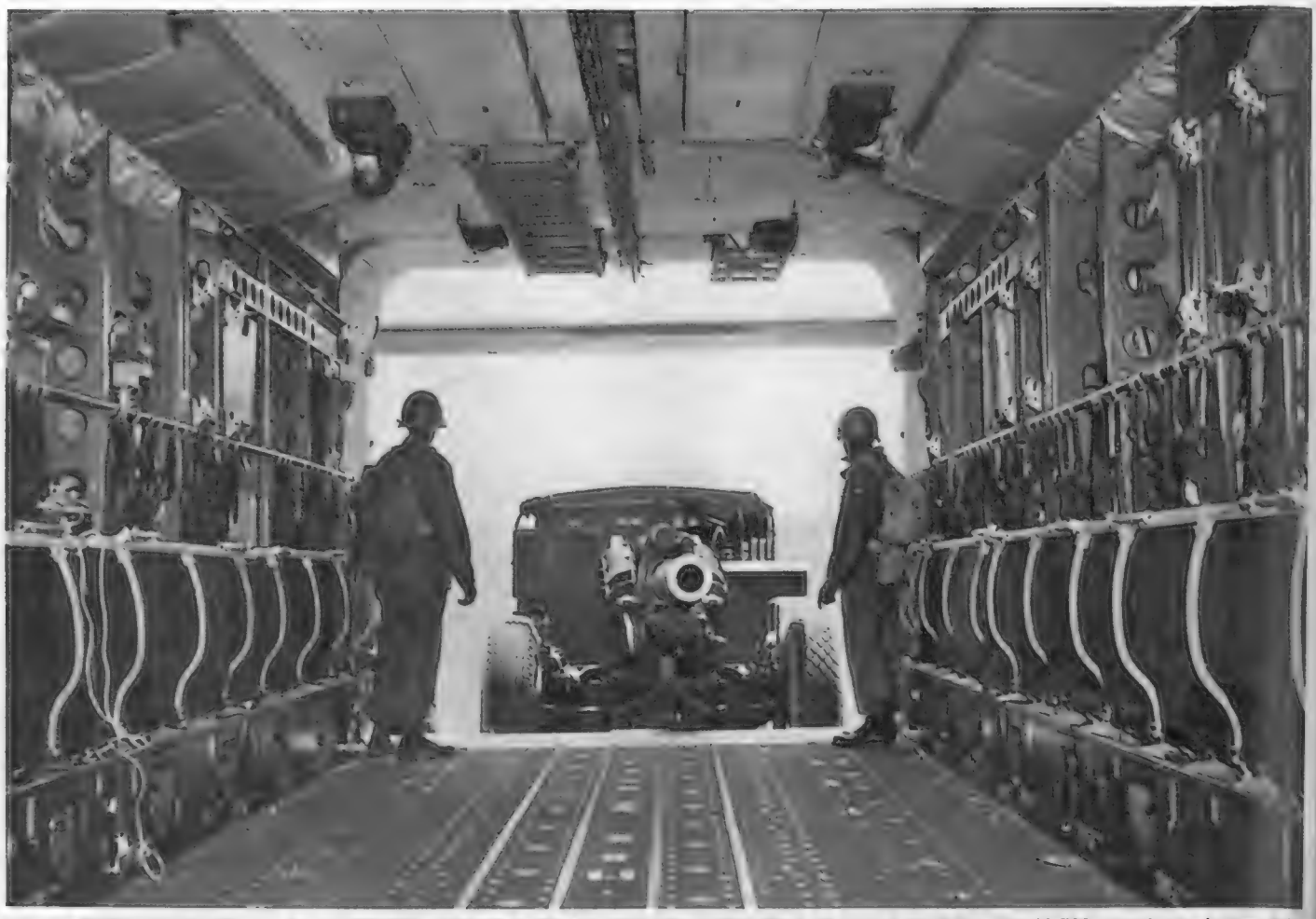
Below:-

THEY HUNG ON TOO LONG: When this landing craft came in to the pier at Inchon to discharge its cargo, the task occupied too long, and the ship was caught by the tide.

THE FLYING BOX CARS OF KOREA

HOW MEN AND ARMS ARE SPED TO THE FRONT

In the Second World War the infantrymen jogged along at 40 m.p.h. on the ground, and this was a great advance on the First World War. To-day the soldiers are becoming used to speeding through the skies at 200 m.p.h. The Fairchild Packet (the FLYING BOX CAR) is the big machine which is making this development really possible.



A 155 mm HOWITZER OF THE U.S. 82nd AIRBORNE DIVISION IS ROLLED INTO THE CARGO HOLD OF A C119 PACKET: The 12,700 pound gun, largest field weapon in use by the General Forces for support of an Infantry Division, easily fits into the hold. The gun has a range of approximately 16,000 yards.

The upper two pictures on this page show how the big U.S. howitzers are stowed and dropped from the flying transports. In addition, other aircraft capable of dropping 42 paratroopers are being employed: they dropped from an altitude of 1,200 ft., and hit the ground within a minute of leaving the aircraft to pick up the weapons already waiting for them.

In the bottom right hand of this page is illustrated another use to which the C119 is being put. In this case, a 75 mm recoil-less Rifle Platoon of the 82nd Airborne Division are displaying their load in front of the aircraft which conveys them to the battlefield. The load includes one officer, 37men, four 75mm weapons, with 21 boxes of ammunition, one jeep and trailer.

HOWITZERS, WEIGHING OVER HALF A TON, ARE DROPPED FROM THE FLYING BOX CARS BY PARACHUTE DOWN TO EARTH: Later, other aircraft will drop paratroops.

THE PILOT OF A U.S. MARINE CORPS HELICOPTER MAKES READY TO TAKE OFF: He is bound on a quick flight back to a rear hospital with a wounded marine strapped in each of the carriers.

ANTI-TANK MEASURES: A 75mm recoil-less rifle platoon of the 82nd. Airborne Division displays an air-transportable load for defence against tanks in Korea.

KOREAN VIGNETTES

NEWS PICTURES FROM THE BATTLEFRONT AND FROM THE CAPTURED CAPITAL CITY

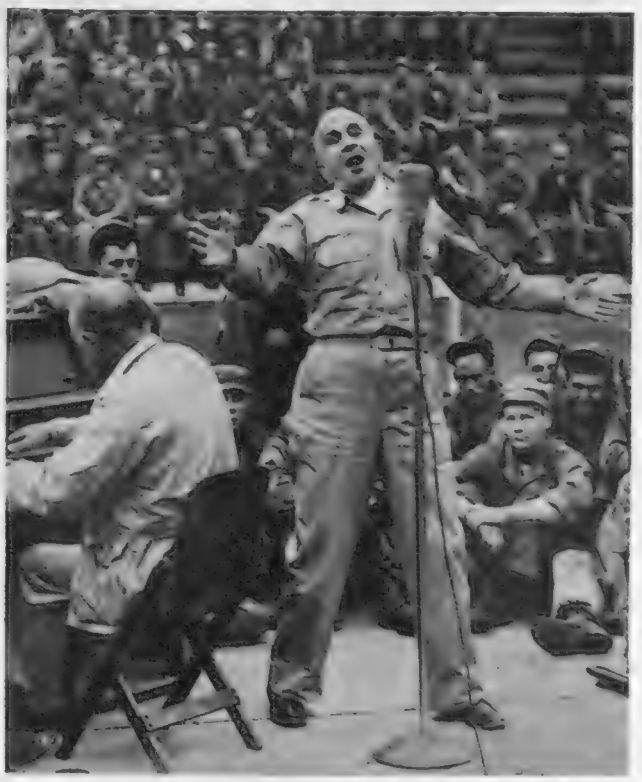
SPRAYING A CAPTIVE WITH D.D.T. POWDER: Two American soldiers dealing with a prisoner in a compound, where elaborate precautions were taken against the spread of disease.

DEATH BESIDE THE NAKTONG: A grief-stricken American infantryman, whose friend has been killed in action, is comforted by another soldier.

AFTERMATH OF COMMUNIST OCCUPATION: A resident of Seoul fighting with a fellow resident whom he accused of collaborating with the Reds.

LAST RITES: Fatally wounded by mortar blast in the advance on Seoul a U.S. Marine trooper receives the last rites from a priest.

MOPPING-UP OPERATIONS IN THE STREETS OF SEOUL: United States Marines in action in the city where many Communists had to be dislodged from buildings where they were making a last stand.



AL JOLSON SINGS AGAIN: The veteran acter-singer entertaining combat troops during a visit to the front.

THE AMERICAN THUNDERJET WHICH HAS SUCCESSFULLY CROSSED THE ATLANTIC FROM MANSTON IN KENT, BY WAY OF PRESTWICK, ICELAND AND LABRADOR, TO MAINE: This picture and the others reproduced on these pages were taken by Mr. Charles E. Brown during tests immediately before the flight.

THE METHOD OF REFUELLING THE THUNDERJET FIGHTERS—THE REFUELLING TANKER IS A LINCOLN AIRCRAFT OF THE R.A.F.: It is trailing the hose and "drogue" with which effective contact has been made by the "probe" on the wing of the fighter by the employment of this technique (developed originally by the English firm of Flight Refuelling Ltd.). The successful Thunderjet was able to cover a distance of 3,800 miles to the Limestone Air Base in Maine without landing. The second pilot baled out after having covered 3,300 miles.

FIGHTERS CROSS THE ATLANTIC NON STOP

HOW THEY WERE REFUELLED DURING FLIGHT

For the first time the Atlantic has been flown non-stop by fighter aircraft, two F84 Thunderjets of the U.S. Air Force which took off from Marston in Kent to fly to New York. They were refuelled in the air by the latest "probe-drogue" system by tankers operating from Prestwick, Iceland and Goose Bay, Labrador.

Owing to bad weather conditions at New York, Colonel Schilling landed his aircraft at Limestone airfield in Maine, about five hundred miles short of his objective; the other machine piloted by Lt.-Colonel Ritchie, ran out of fuel, having encountered strong headwinds all the way across the Atlantic. He baled out, landed safely on the shore, and was picked up by a searching helicopter which took him on to Goose Bay.

Colonel Schilling covered a distance of 3,800 miles, and Lt.-Colonel Ritchie covered 3,300 miles.

The pictures given on these pages were taken by Mr. Charles Brown during trial flights made immediately before the cross-Atlantic attempt. They were taken on two consecutive days from the tail of a Lincoln refuelling aircraft, a B29, and a Lancaster.

HOW THE FIGHTER-PILOT VIEWS THE REFUELLING TANKER AND ITS HOSE AND "DROGUE": In this case the refuelling aircraft is a B29 Superfortress. Into the drogue the fighter has to insert the "probe" through which the petrol is passed into the fighter's emptying tanks.

HOW THE CREW OF THE TANKER SEE THE FIGHTER AIRCRAFT WHEN IT APPROACHES TO REFUEL: THE THUNDERJET IS ONE OF THE FASTEST PLANES IN THE U.S. AIR FORCE: At a height of 45,000 feet its powerful Allison motor gives it a speed of 600 m.p.h. by refuelling in mid-air, the fighter can enhance its radius of operation tremendously, enabling it to protect long-distance aerial convoys.

Above:-
THE TANKER'S FLIGHT-REFUELLING HOSE UNIT AND DROGUE: This is seen in the position adopted prior to release.

Below:-
THE "PROBE" ON THE WING OF THE THUNDERJET FIGHTER: This engages with the Drogue and through it petrol passes.

LAID UP AT GARELOCH—H.M.S. "KING GEORGE V" OF THE "MOTHBALL FLEET": The method employed in "pickling" ships, enables them to be made ready for service within a very short time. The "K.G.V" has had all her guns and other equipment, which has been exposed to weather, covered with "Kooncote" covering (a type of rubberized cocoon) for protection. The covering is sprayed on. Many of our warships have been similarly treated.

THE 35,000 TON BATTLESHIP, NAMESHIP OF HER CLASS, AT HER MOORINGS: The "K.G.V" was laid down in 1937 and completed in 1940.

H.M.S. KING GEORGE V GOES INTO PICKLE

The Great Ship Laid Up at the Gareloch

PICKLING THE GUNS AND EQUIPMENT OF "KING GEORGE V" AT GARELOCH: On Left—Ordnance artificer Tom Hutchinson, of Portsmouth, sprays the "Kooncote" covering onto the ceremonial salute guns: On Right—Protecting some of the battleship's equipment. A small party of men remains on board the battleship for maintenance duties. "King George V" has ten 14 inch guns and sixteen 5.25 inch, in addition to many Bofors and Oerlikon. She has a normal peace-time complement of 1500.

The Treasures of NIPPUR

THE REMARKABLE FINDS OF AN AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION

The joint archaeological expedition of the University of Chicago and the University of Pennsylvania Museum in the Sumerian city of Nippur, Central Babylonia, have yielded some truly remarkable results, particularly during the present year. Nippur, where civilisation first developed lies about one hundred miles to the south of modern Baghdad. Its identification with Calneh (Genesis 10), and that of Ezekiel's River Chebar with the Nil Canal, are tentative. Nippur was examined by Layard, 1851, and excavations by Peters, Haynes and Hilprecht, 1889-1900, revealed a continuous history from reed-huts on Neolithic marshes to palaces of Parthian kings. A centre of religion and learning, its Enlil temple restored, intermittently, from Naram-sin to Ashurbanipal, ultimately became a Seleucian fortress. Nippur's yield of clay tablets during earlier excavations included 40,000 temple records and 730 business documents of brokers and bankers of Persian kings of the fifth century B.C. The finds achieved by the American expedition of 1949-50 have been hardly less remarkable than those in the past. Work for 1949-1950 was completed last April, when Dr. Donald E. McCown, the field director, returned to the United States. Since then the accompanying photographs made during the season's work have been developed and the whole achievement of the joint expedition is in course of assessment.

In Nippur, the archaeologists were digging during 1949-50 in two points of the 180-acre site, the temple site and the quarters of the Sumerian scribes who wrote the clay tablets dating from 1800 to 1900 B.C.

The first major temple discovered from the Akkadian period, the House of Enlil, chief god of the Sumerians, was unearthed in five levels, covering a period of 1,600 years. Enlil decided the fates of kings and people and gave commands which affected every man in the country. Nippur, as the seat of Enlil, was a religious capital, an ecclesiastic Rome or a Delphi.

A 4,000-YEAR-OLD TEMPLE AT NIPPUR, IRAQ: A view of the excavations at the house of the god Enlil, where the joint archæological expeditions of the University of Chicago and the University of Pennsylvania Museum have uncovered treasures, some of which date back to over 2,000 B.C. The Arab stands on the floor of the earliest temple of 2,200 B.C. His head is even with the top of the first temple's walls, as far as they are preserved, and the bottom of the walls of the second temple built one-hundred years later. A third set of walls rise above the step back and were built by kings of the fourteenth century B.C. They had destroyed all but traces of another temple. At the top are huge bricks of the foundations of a citadel, built after 200 B.C. when the character of the old sanctuary had been forgotten. All the bricks are of sun-dried mud or adobe.

A BURIAL JAR FOUND BENEATH THE HOUSE OF THE SCRIBES AT NIPPUR AROUND 500 B.C. IN THE JOINT UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO-UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA EXPEDITION THIS YEAR: The coffin, two large jars, placed mouth to mouth." The nearer jar has been broken away to reveal the skeleton. Shreds of cloth and leather from the shroud and clothing still remain.

The temple, as unearthed by University of Chicago and University of Pennsylvania archaeologists last year, was a rectangular building 23 by 47 yards with massive walls over 10 feet thick. Successive rebuilders of the temple followed the same architectural plan during the 1,600 years it was traced. Because of its divine resident, no ruler dared change the plans as centuries passed, despite changing fashions in architecture.

The type of building blocks, however, changed, and each kind is well illustrated in a photograph showing the temple in the Akkadian period (2,300 B.C.), the third dynasty of Ur (2,200 B.C.), Kassite period (1,400 B.C.) and Parthian fortress (after 200 B.C.).

In the "white house" of Nippur, and in the scribal quarters south of the sacred precincts, the archaeologists also found a number of objects. There are

(continued overleaf)

MURDER IN 1850 B.C.—THIS IS MAN'S OLDEST RECORD OF A MURDER TRIAL: The record of a case dating back 3,800 years has been found inscribed on this 2 by 4 in. clay tablet recently unearthed at Nippur. The cuneiform script in the Sumerian language—mankind's earliest known form of writing—was translated by Dr. Samuel Noah Kramer and Dr. Thorkild Jacobsen.

UNEARTHED IN THE ANCIENT SUMERIAN CITY: A warrior on his horse, a member of the cavalry of the Persian army which tried to conquer Greece 2400 years ago. This object found by the joint University of Chicago-University of Pennsylvania expedition at Nippur may be a toy or may symbolize the respect of the people felt for the bravery of the soldier's life. It is about five ins. high and made of baked clay.

THE TREASURES OF NIPPU

A DEMON WITH LION-LIKE HEAD: This figure found in 1950 by the joint t ersity of Chicago-University of Pennsylvania expedition to Nippur, expre the dread with which man, 2400 years ago, viewed such beings who bro sickness and misfortune into the home.

(continued from previous page)

tablets from the oldest recorded literature in the world. The Sumerian scribes, who wrote the clay tablets dating back to 1,800 B.C., were preserving a literature that was already old; it was 3,800 years and had been transmitted from one generation of storyteller or priest to another before given permanence on clay tablets.

The literature is remarkable for more than age. Its own excellence places it in the forefront of the creations of ancient man and makes it rank with the Hebrew and Greek masterpieces. It is a monument to the creative activity of the Sumerians.

Less than a dozen men in the world to-day are able to read the ancient cuneiform writing of the Sumerian scribes, who were an indispensable part of society in temple and administration business. The scribes were somewhat of a guild, for most people were illiterate In the quarter excavated, they had lived for generations, one city level rising upon another as centuries passed.

To the archaeologists, digging in the scribal quarters is much like excavating a great national library—the clay tablets—usually unbaked and mud coloured—bring the scientists closest to their goal—understanding man in the past.

On Right:-

A HEAD, WHICH MIGHT BE IDENTIFIED TODAY AS THE ANCESTOR OF DONALD DUCK: It is the head of a serpent-like dragon such as adorned the streets leading to the Tower of Babel somewhat after 1000 B.C.

FROM THE HOME OF A BABYLONIAN SCRIBE: A miniature shrine houses a male divinity worshipped by a scribe of Nippur in his house about 2000 B.C. The baked clay object was broken in two pieces when discovered with the head of the god missing.

A HOUSEHOLD DIVINITY FROM 1800 B.C. IS REPRESENTED SEATED ON A SIMPLE THRONE: The figure, found by the American expedition in Babylonia, is painted in red save for a blackened beard. The symbol he held in the left hand is now lost. This figure was found broken in several pieces in a scribe's house.

THE SCRIBES OF NIPPUR USED THESE TWO OBJECTS IN THEIR HOMES DURING THE 20th CENTURY B.C.: On the left is a mask of a ferocious demon. Such spirits were not always evil, but protected man from ill-luck and disease. On the right is a clay mould of a reclining calf, with an impression made from it below. Many clay figures were made in such moulds.

JEWELRY OF A CHILD BURIED WITH HER WHEN SHE WAS LAID TO REST 2400 YEARS AGO: Archæologists of the American expedition to Nippur found a child's skeleton in a coffin. The child wore the large silver ring on her ankles, smaller silver rings on her wrists, ornamented gold earrings and a smaller gold nose ring. Around her neck were the strands of a necklace.

WHERE FERTILITY HAS REACHED A LOW EBB: These South African uplands once supported a native population enjoying comparative prosperity. Now some of the huts are derelict, as soil erosion in the area has sadly reduced the population which can be maintained on the land. Many natives have gone to the mines

A FINE EXAMPLE OF CONTOUR PLOUGHING: Where farmers have ploughed their la intensively in this fashion soil erosion has often been checked

ARIDITY AND WRONG METHODS OF TREATMENT HAVE DONE TREMENDOUS DAMAGE IN THE KAPP DISTRICT, ONCE KNOWN AS THE GOLDEN VALLEY: These apricot trees, which once bore a rich harvest, are now dried up. The ploughing of contour furrows came too late to arrest soil erosion, and the district is fast becoming a wilderness

THIS WAS ONCE A BLOSSOMING, FERTILE VALLEY MAINTAINING MANY FARMERS I PROSPERITY: Now it is completely eroded and there are great rifts in the surf

SOUTH AFRICA FACES the MENACE of SOIL EROSION

HE IS DIRECTING THE TASK OF SOIL CONSERVATION IN THE TRANSKEI TERRITORIES: Professor Lindsay Robb at work in his office at Keiskhama Hoek. He is one of South Africa's greatest experts on soil erosion, and it is his main task to train white and black farmers in the art of conservation. There are whole areas appointed by law as soil conservation districts where farmers run the risk of their land being expropriated if they do not follow the rules laid down by the experts

A VALLEY FAR GONE IN EROSION: T only way to right matters in t area, the soil experts declare, to level the ground with bu machinery. There are many pa of the Transkei Territory, South Africa in this condi

A MAIZE FIELD PLANTED ON A TOO-STEEP SLOPE: The rains have washed away the ground to such a degree little water is retained and the crop fails

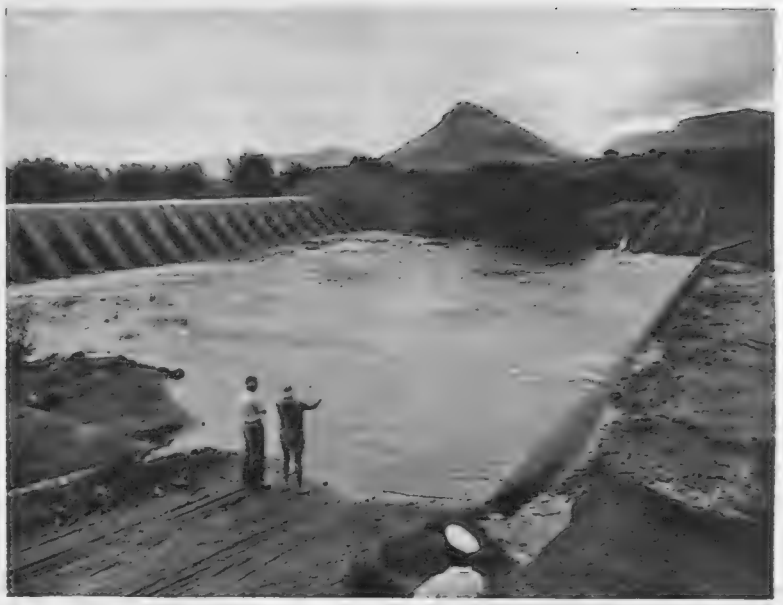
A NATIVE VILLAGE IN THE MIDST OF A SANDSTORM: A cloud of sand swirling round the rondavels. This is typical of conditions which occur with alarming frequency in some parts of the Transkei.

South Africa is suffering from a s disease, the decline in ferti of the soil, caused by faulty meth of agriculture with resultant s erosion. The dreamland of thousa of immigrants will in a short ti become largely desert if these meth persist. South Africa has reali this and there is a large-scale w going on to combat this menace.

One-third of the European p three-quarters of the native popu tions are engaged in agriculture South Africa and erosion endan their livelihood. Each time the ra come and the wind blows, more more of their land is taken from them.

All the methods known to mod science are being applied to the The results of the extensive re

CONSTRUCTING DYKES TO RESTORE AN ERODED RIVER VALLEY : This is typical of the Government-assisted schemes which have been pushed ahead.



FLOODWATERS POURING OVER A SILLWAY : When the rains have been heavy the rivers run a deep red, an indication of the immense amount of ground which they carry with them on their way to the sea

A MUD-CATCHING SLOUGH : These are easily constructed, and are not unduly expensive. Posters, both in English and Afrikaans, explain the purpose of these sloughs to the farmers, and thus in a measure help to educate them in the importance of the whole soil erosion problem in the Union

A DYKE BEHIND WHICH WATER IS STORED FOR THE IRRIGATION OF PLATEAU COUNTRY : This is another example of work already achieved in South Africa in the realm of soil conservation. After the Act of 1933 it was decided that still more was required to be done, and in 1936 further moneys were advanced by the Union for schemes such as this

carried on in the U.S.A., where erosion is also a public enemy, are proving of immense value—safeguarding of forests and afforestation, prevention of fire, decrease in livestock and contour ploughing only being allowed.

These methods may often not be very agreeable to white and black farmers, since it means that their own particular wishes and desires have to be subjugated to the common good. New methods have had to be introduced where customs brought from Europe in the last century have persisted to this day. Livestock, which is often the only form of wealth of the natives, has had to be restricted in numbers, with resultant ill-feeling by the owners.

But this is the only method whereby the 300,000,000 tons of Africa, which yearly are washed down into the sea, can be preserved for future generations and the country maintained as a rich productive part of the world.

It was in 1933 that an Act was first passed through the Union Parliament providing very considerable Government assistance to the farmers in dealing with soil erosion, and in an Amendment to the Act in 1936, still more aid was provided. At first there was considerable concentration on the erection of dams. Government assistance is given under five well-defined schemes. At the end of 1935, some 9,300 farm dams had been completed with the aid of about £1,500,000 from the Government.

IN A NATIVE RESERVATION, WHERE THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS PUT INTO PRACTICE A GENERAL SCHEME OF CONSERVATION : The tendency is to collect the natives into well-ordered villages, and to plough the land formerly occupied by their scattered huts. Some land, however, is kept as pasture, and wire fences are put up to contain the cattle. As a result, some of the pasture is given full time for recovery. This picture is one of several on these pages from the Transkei Territory. It shows fine examples of contour ploughing in the best erosion-resisting manner as laid down by South African experts

"WELL I HEARTILY CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR KENNEL. THE VIEW FROM THE TERRACE HERE IS SUPERB": Cayley Drummel (Ronald Ward) visits Paula Tanqueray (Eileen Herlie). When first produced in 1893 the play gave Mrs. Patrick Campbell the great chance of her career, and Pinero leaped to the forefront as one of the most outstanding playwrights of his day.

"I REALLY LOVE YOU SO MUCH AUBREY THAT TO SAVE YOU I'D RATHER YOU TREATED ME AS THE OTHERS HAVE DONE": Paula Tanqueray (Eileen Herlie) and Aubrey Tanqueray (Leslie Banks) in a scene from Act I of the revival of Pinero's famous play, "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray"

A FAMOUS VICTORIAN REVIVAL

PINERO'S "THE SECOND MRS. TANQUERAY"

"DO WISH ME GOODNIGHT": Captain Hugh Ardale (Robert Urquhart) asks a very leading question, and Ellean (Josephine Griffin), not to be inveigled, replies with some finality "We have said goodnight."

"OF COURSE IT'S MY DUTY AS AN OLD FRIEND TO GIVE YOU A GOOD TALKING TO, BUT REALLY I HAVE FOUND THAT ONE GETS SO MANY SMACKS IN THE FACE THROUGH INTERFERING IN MATRIMONIAL SQUABBLES THAT I'VE DETEBMINED TO DROP IT": Lady Orreyed (Shelagh Fraser) has a heart to heart talk with Paula Tanqueray (Eileen Herlie) in Act III of the Pinero revival at the Haymarket.

Arthur Pinero, who presented the moral conventions of his time with such dramatic force, almost interpreting them as laws of nature, had one of his greatest successes with "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray", in which Mrs. Patrick Campbell made an unforgettable impression in the tragic role. To-day, however, the part of Paula Tanqueray has not the same tragic implications. The world has moved on, and although Eileen Herlie is an actress of remarkable ability, she cannot arouse the same emotions as did the creator of the part in the 'nineties. She cannot restore to Paula the power she once seemed to have. The task would undoubtedly be beyond any actress. The play dates, but none the less it is pleasant enough entertainment and the revival, with Cecil Beaton decor, can be called truly impressive. Miss Herlie, whose maturity as an actress is evident enough, has admirable support from Leslie Banks as Aubrey Tanqueray, from Ronald Ward as Cayley Drummle, and from Marie Ney as Mrs. Cortelyon.

THE MAN WHO HAS MADE A PARACHUTE JUMP OF MORE THAN EIGHT MILES: Captain Wheeler, of the U.S. Air Force, standing in a field near Holloman Air Base, New Mexico, after making a parachute jump of 42,449 ft. to test the device which opened the chute automatically after falling out of the area of rarified air.

FIGHTING MEN OF 1950

THE FROGMAN OF THE FRENCH ARMY: A Nageur d'Assaut, a member of a recently-formed Corps, preparing to put the glass window in his helmet before embarking on an under-water exercise during manoeuvres. His equipment includes an under-water acetylene torch.

THE K.C.'s GO TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY: Mrs. Helena Normanton and a fellow member of the Bar on the way to the service held to mark the re-opening of the Law Courts after the Long Vacation.

WOMEN AND THE LAW

MISS ROSE HEILBRON K.C. IN THE PROCESSION OF K.C.'s: She was on the way to attend the traditional Champagne Breakfast given by the Lord Chancellor to mark the opening of the Michaelmas Law sittings.

LABOURS' LEADERS AT MARGATE

SOME PERSONALITIES AT THE JUBILEE YEAR CONFERENCE

CLEMENT ATTLEE MAKES THE KEYNOTE SPEECH: The Prime Minister with Party Secretary Morgan Phillips on his left hand and Mr. Herbert Morrison and Mr. Dalton on his right hand addressing the big Conference.

THE PREMIER TOASTS THE BOROUGH OF MARGATE: Mr. Attlee drinks to the Mayor and Corporation at the Mayor's private luncheon held in the East Room of the Winter Gardens. Mrs. Attlee is on the right.

MR. SAM WATSON, THE DURHAM MINERS' LEADER, OPENED THE PROCEE... The Chairman of the 49th annnal conference delivering his address ... gates. He spoke at length on the social progress achieved by ...

AT THE MUNICIPAL AND GENERAL WORKERS' DINNER: This was only one of many social functions which marked the Conference week at Margate. The Lord President, Mr. Morrison (right), is invariably one of the first to take the floor.

THE PREMIER AT THE MUNICIPAL AND GENERAL WORKERS' DINNER: Mr. Attlee addressing ... ing of prominent trade unionists. On his right hand sits Mrs. Attlee and on his ... gan Phillips, the Secretary of the Labour Party.

E MISSED THE PREMIER: Intent on getting a picture this youth with the camera missed the most important of all the delegates to the Margate Conference. Mr. Attlee and his wife were taking a brisk stroll beside the sea.

THE DEFENCE MINISTER AT THE CONFERENCE: Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell receiving his ballot papers before entering the Winter Gardens for the first session.

BEVAN AND MRS. SHINWELL AT THE MAYOR OF MARGATE'S LUNCHEON: The Minister of Health seated next to the wife of the Defence Minister. As usual Mr. Bevan topped the Executive poll.

A COCKTAIL FOR DR. EDITH SUMMERSKILL: The Minister at the reception before the Mayor of Margate's private luncheon.

Below:- NO HAWKERS! Mr. Strachey, Minister for War, and his colleague Mr. Stewart ignore the vendors of literature, not all of it pro-Labour, as they arrive for a session at the Conference.

MORRISON WITH A DISTINGUISHED OVERSEA VISITOR: The Lord President of the Council standing outside the Grand Hotel, Margate with Mr. Tage Erlander, the Swedish Premier.

New Lamps and Old

IN DARKEST SURREY

The Ancient Glories and Stately Homes of a Much Suburbanised English County

By JOHN GORE

An Extraordinary Home County.—I borrowed the title from a *Times* light article. It fits my present purpose. I live in Sussex and often praise it. But I am a Surrey man.

I believe my first ascertainable ancestors were respectable Aldermen of London and Surrey men, though later the family founded its fortunes (such as they are) by battering the Irish in Elizabethan times and getting a grant of land in that lovely and distressful country.

And I was born in Surrey on Wimbledon Common (under a roof, of course), and indeed the house still stands, though now divided into flats, with its forty acres still intact (though sadly run to seed) upon which I shot my first pheasant, partridge and even wild duck in 1902, seven miles from Hyde Park corner. And for many years, at different periods of my life, I lived in Surrey.

Such then are my claims to speak of Surrey as a Surrey man. They are not very strong, perhaps, because in the past twenty years I have lost touch with Surrey and have had to correct a very false impression of that county which ignorance and hearsay have printed on my mind. I have been accustomed to dismiss Surrey as suburbia, as Greater London, a built-up area. That is one's impression if one never leaves the Portsmouth Road. Recent exploration convinces me that no slap-dash definition could be further from the truth. There are still tracts, *pockets*, in Surrey as unspoilt as parts of Cumberland, as old-English as parts of Essex.

Surrey is an extraordinary Home County. It can rush to hideous suburbanisation quicker than most, and again it can resist spoilation more resolutely than any.

In my boyhood, I used to follow fashion and my father on a bicycle, faint yet pursuing. His favourite trial of (my) strength took us from Guildford over Hindhead to the "Jolly Drover" at Hill Brow, Rake, and so into Sussex.

The test would come as we breasted the Punch-Bowl. When at last we reached the summit, even he granted a respite, and we flung ourselves down in the heather and longed for ginger beer. There were only two roofs in sight in that lonely spot. The old inn with its lurid pictures of the murder of the unknown sailor and the newly-risen home of Conan Doyle; and it was a long and lonely walk to the inn from our couch in the heather. Haslemere, Shottermill and Hindhead to-day trumpet loudly what Surrey can do in the way of "progress" along the line of the trunk roads. But off those main roads, though only a mile off, Surrey knows how to preserve her privacy.

LAST WORD IN LUGGERS: Replacing the ill-fated "Pioneer" which sank in a fog off Fairlight with the loss of three lives, the new lugger "Endeavour" has taken her place among the Hastings fishing fleet. Said to be the "very last word" in this type of craft, she belongs to a well-known Hastings fishing family.

PREPARING FOR THE WINTER GALES AT EASTBOURNE: Men engaged in strengthening one of the breakwaters which begin to be subjected to a heavy battering at this season of the year.

HE SCORNS THE CONVENTIONAL EASEL: This artist, at work in the picturesque fishing quarter of the Old Town at Hastings, has his framed canvas tied to a lamp standard. He declares that in windy weather it saves him time and the trouble of carrying a large easel around with his other equipment.

Visiting Ancient Losely.—In the 'nineties, at the very start of my bicycle journeys, I used to pass the lodge gates of Losely at Peasmarsh, and never thought to enquire, though I lived but a mile or so from it, whither it led. It still leads, very much as it must have led when Queen Elizabeth and James 1st jolted down it in their heavy coaches, to Losely Park, built about 15[illegible] by Sir William More from the stones of Waverley Abbey now seven hundred years old. The old house, which contains some of the chief glories of our native craftsmen in panelling, stone carving and cabinet making, stands to-day as utterly remote from the world as it did in the sixteenth century. It is worth visiting if only to sense its seclusion and taste its sense of permanence; doubly worth visiting to study the marvels of its Nonsuch panels and its great chalk chimney-piece, two of the world's marvels of domestic crafts. There stands Losely and less than a mile away mechanised England roars along built-up suburbia.

Is it unique, an isolated last ditch?

By no means. You may drive on through the mangled suburbia of Albury and thence find your way to Shere and across Hurt Wood and Smithwood Common down to Cranleigh. And if I took you blindfold for the entire journey, only removing your bandage between Loseley house and again between Hurt and Smithwood Commons, and asked you "Where do you think you are?", you might say "in Scott's or Shakespeare country, in the Forest of Arden or the purlieus of Kenilworth," but you would not guess Surrey.

But Surrey can offer several other such last [illegible] to those who still enjoy seclusion and have no vendetta against privacy.

West Sussex the Fortunate.—In Sussex, of course, suburbanisation is not nearly so far advanced. West Sussex has been particularly lucky, at least until the last war, and owed its immunity in large measure to [illegible] devoted great landowners who, through thick and thin, have clung to their acres and resisted the lures and the assaults of vulgar commercialism and local authorities whose notions of amenity do not soar above "public conveniences."

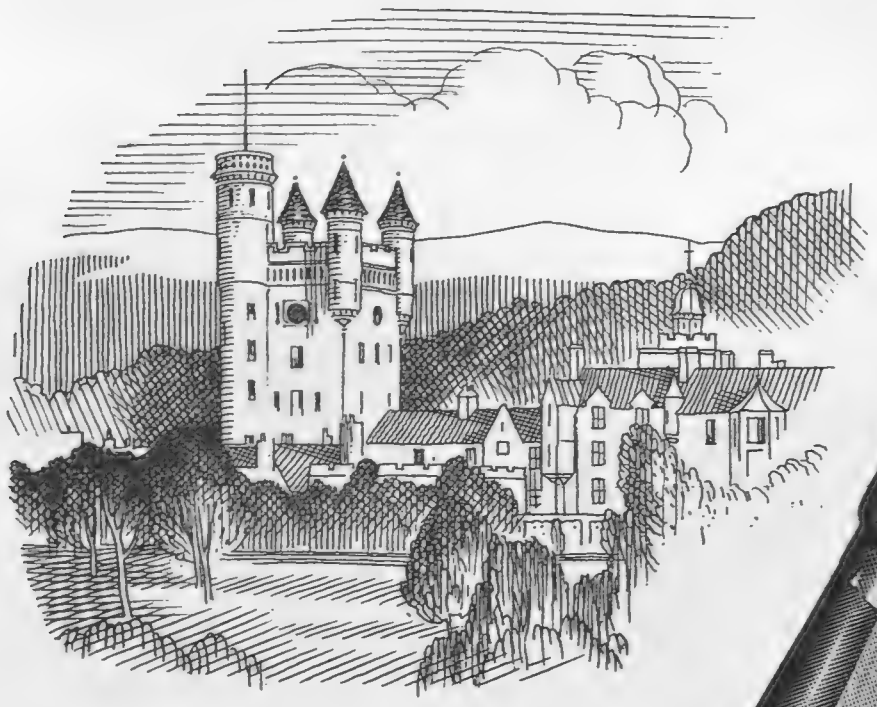
Sometimes, no doubt, one comes across traces of the tyranny of vested interests, a railway station placed a full mile from the village it serves, a main road lavishly expensively round some Naboth's vineyard. But, on the whole, the great landlords of West Sussex have been faithful and wise stewards of the county and strong defenders of those things which are worth keeping beyond price and, once lost, never to be restored.

They and the Commons have done the [illegible] against greed and tastelessness, and deserve all the protection and help which the State and the National Trust can give them. For to-day the fearful process of destruction is proceeding as swiftly as in the years between.

The needs of timber for housing and of mechanised farming are altering the landscape under our eyes. Vanishing are the woods, copses, hedges and the shadowed lanes, so characteristic of West Sussex. The small manor houses are left empty or stripped by speculators who have bought the estates for the value of the trees and lead and fittings.

Half-a-dozen authorities and preservation [illegible] tumble over each other in vain to halt the process quite as vainly as in the go-as-you-please "thirties."

The Gowers report is timely. It may in time preserve what is left of a Hatfield, a Brympton or a Losely, but what are these among so many noble old houses? Every one of them has been for centuries a custodian of our heritage. *Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?*



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The World of Books, By VERNON FANE

THE RE-DISCOVERY OF MR. SWINBURNE

In His Prodigious Output Can be Found Some of the Most Exquisite Lyric Poetry in the Language

Apparently it has been decided that Algernon Charles Swinburne is worth re-discovering : and high time, too. In his prodigious output can be found some of the most exquisite lyric poetry in the language. Whenever the Muse decides to return from the waste land and the music of words does not have to be attuned to the damp souls of housemaids, the glorious English heritage may shine anew and with more than a faint aura about the head of him who not so long ago lived on Putney Hill. Mr. Humphrey Hare, whose recent biography of Swinburne caused the lifting of more than one academic eyebrow, has made a careful, balanced and representative arrangement in SWINBURNE : SELECTED POEMS (Heinemann, 12s. 6d.). He also contributes a ten thousand word introduction in which he recapitulates and underlines some of his Swinburnian theories. In the development of the most provocative of these, he frequently uses the word algolagnia which is not to be found in any of the standard dictionaries. A younger generation may find its secret in some of the more exotic of Swinburne's poetry which, in this volume, is nicely contrasted with some of the major work.

HIGHBROW—Mr. T. S. ELIOT WHO HAS LEFT FOR AMERICA WHERE HIS PLAY "THE COCKTAIL PARTY" IS RUNNING ON BROADWAY: While in America Mr. Eliot will be lecturing in Chicago for two months, earning dollars for his stay. He is an American-born naturalised Briton.

The fifth and concluding book of Sir Osbert Sitwell's autobiography has now appeared and is described by him as a book of characters. NOBLE ESSENCES or Courteous Revelations (Macmillan 21s.) does indeed consist in the main of sketches of ten of the distinguished friends he has made during his lifetime, including one with whom his acquaintance was brief but memorable ; d'Annunzio. Among the others are Sir Edmund Gosse, " gay, lively and formidable " ; the young poet, Wilfred Owen, who was killed only a week before the 1918 Armistice ; Sickert, about whom good anecdotes are innumerable ; Ronald Firbank, " shy, charming, sad, comic " ; Arnold Bennett, of whom H. G. Wells, is said to have remarked that " The trouble is, whenever I do a thing, Arnold does it too, but twice as posh," and Rex Whistler, who could, in the truest sense, be called a decorative painter, and who was killed in France soon after D-Day. The illustrations have been chosen with the same taste as the subjects of the essays, and there are reproductions of paintings, drawings and bronzes by John, Sickert, Tchelitchew and Epstein, briefly and formally captioned, but the gem of them all is a photograph of a chubby little child, caped and bonnetted in Victorian splendour, and subscribed " Dr. Edith Sitwell, *aet.* 3 ". If that is not hilariously funny, and I'm sure, Sir Osbert doesn't think it is, then I miss my guess.

Sir Newman Flower in his volume of reminiscences, JUST AS IT HAPPENED (Cassell, 16s.), writes about Arnold Bennett and about H. G. Wells too, though from a less esoteric angle, and, among many good stories, tells one about the former and Gerald du Maurier. The actor had produced one of Arnold's plays at that time. It was a complete failure. Soon afterwards they were walking down Piccadilly together when Arnold stepped off the pavement directly in front of an on-coming bus. Gerald gripped his sleeve and pulled him violently back to the pavement, and unquestionably saved his life.

" And what did you do that for ? " Gerald asked him.

" W-well, you s-see, Gerald," stammered Arnold, " I-I had just g-got the idea for a new p-play for you."

" Good God ! " exclaimed Gerald. " I wish I had pushed you back under that bus again ! " Lily Langtry appears in these pages, and the divine Kitty O'Shea of the Parnell question, both as ageing ladies, the one intent on the present and the other resigned to living in dreams of the past. In the chapter which the author heads " *Some Splendid Ghosts* " the reader will find W. E. Henley, Oscar Wilde, R. L. Stevenson, Rider Haggard and even Dean Farrar, of all of whom he can relate stories, not from his own memories but from the traditions of the publishing firm with which he was for so many years connected.

RICHARD HILLARY (Macmillan, 8s. 6d.) is a loving yet acute biography of the young man who, before his death at the age of twenty-three, had made a name for himself not only for physical courage, but by the subtlety and lucidity of thought expressed in the one book he had time to write. Mr. Lovat Dickson knew him well, though he only met him for the first time after the boy had been shot down in flames, his face and hands terribly burned, and had been having the first series of operations in plastic surgery. From then till Hillary went back on operational flying at his own request, and was killed, the author of this memoir saw him and talked with him often, and shared in his life to the extent of widening Hillary's circle of friends, and introducing him to such literary figures, for he had decided that writing was to be his career after the war, as Elizabeth Bowen, Eric Linklater, Arthur Koestler and Storm Jameson. Hillary's death was a tragedy for his friends and for those many who had come to know him through his book, *The Last Enemy*, that perfect title which had been chosen from St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians : " The Last Enemy that shall be destroyed is death ".

Like many of " BB " 's books, LETTERS FROM COMPTON DEVERELL (Eyre & Spottiswoode, 16s.), is designed for casual reading, for leisurely hours by the fireside, or comfortably in bed, rather than for intensive and consecutive study. In the form of a series of long letters to a young friend abroad, this well-known writer on nature subjects has given a picture of a year in a countryman's life ; a countryman, that is to say, who leads a fairly leisured life in a charming old house set among fields and woods in a spot that is not too remote to be typical of the little English village. " BB " writes charmingly and discursively on the events of his quiet days, and with enormous authority on the events and seasons of the fields and woods. " Why is it," he writes, for instance, " that most caterpillars, just before they pupate, will travel as far as they can from their food plant ? " And why, indeed, the uninstructed reader might echo. But " BB " really wants to pursue problems of this kind to their *fons et origo*, though not necessarily *miserum*. Here is a writer who loves the matters on which he writes, whose life, whether literary or practical, appears to be made up of them, and who, to our good fortune, can express his liking in unaffected prose, as easy to our eyes as an old tweed jacket to our shoulders.

When I read that the ebullient imagination and the towering arabesques of prose rise in GORMENGHAST (Eyre & Spottiswoode, 15s.) to a crescendo which makes the book a physically disturbing experience, I am more than inclined to agree, and would add that it is one of those all too frequent physical experiences which leave one physically exhausted. Mr. Mervyn Peake chooses and obviously enjoys the Gothic style both in setting, mood and ornamentation. His novel is long and it is overloaded. It also belongs to the wet-towel-round-the-forehead school of reading. Judge for yourselves. " A ritual, more compelling than ever man devised, is fighting anchored darkness. A ritual of the blood ; of the jumping blood. These quicks of sentience owe nothing to his forbears, but to those feckless hosts, a trillion deep, of the globe's childhood. The gift of the bright blood. Of blood that laughs when the tenets mutter, ' Weep '. Of blood that mourns when the sere laws croak ' Rejoice ' ! " And, I fear, of readers that cry " Stop ! " when the author urges " Read on ". For that quotation comes from the very first paragraph of a book four hundred and fifty pages long, of which every page is heavy with the same imagery and the same reverence for the medieval spirit. There will, of course, be those who relish this story of silken spinsters screaming like macaws, of Lord Sepulchrave and Fuchsia and Steerpike and Prunesquallor and the other grotesques, but I cannot in honestycount myself among them.

THE DRAWINGS OF MERVYN PEAKE (Grey Walls, 18s.) come from the same brain and hand, but are far more varied even in their small compass. Here, too, you will find the author-artist's leaning towards the strange and deliberately ugly, but you will also find a delicate and gifted draughtsman, capable on page one, page thirty-one and page sixty-two of great sensitivity and tenderness, on several other pages of savage caricatures, and on one page at least, of a drawing of a being, part-gargoyle, part-Airedale which I thought I recognised as a club member.

The three ladies responsible for the other novels I have read this week have writing experience in varying degrees, but a serious and admirable professional approach in common. First of all, there is Miss Naomi Royde Smith with ROSY TRODD (Sampson Low, 9s. 6d.), a story of the Victorian era in a little south coast watering place, with a plot of dark doings against the mildest and most pastel of backgrounds. Miss Royde Smith has as light a hand at this kind of thing as a blue ribbon cook would have at pastry, and manages her characters with conviction and firmness. The story makes entertaining reading without being particularly stimulating.

In QUEEN'S WILDE (Heinemann, 10s. 6d.), Miss Dorothy Wright has traced the fortunes of two English girls from childhood to their thirties, and has done it with compassion, humour and a very lively sense of what English life is like through all the gradations of the great middle class. The title refers to a lovely country house, comfortably shabby before the war, shabby and almost uninhabitable during the war, and sold to a girl's school after the war. Both girls love the house, and more than that, the family whose ancestors have long owned it. Their natural destiny might have been to marry into that family, but neither does, and therein lies a story which is as credible as it is touching.

Miss Mary Lavin is an Irish novelist with all her country's facility of emotion, and facility of expression, too. Her new novel, MARY O'GRADY (Michael Joseph, 12s. 6d.) is in some sort an exercise in that emotion which will sometimes move the reader and sometimes leave him overwhelmed and even exasperated. The story opens with Mary a young bride in Dublin about fifty years ago and continues through the vicissitudes of her married life, her husband's death and the marriages and illnesses, in one case mental, of her own children. The book is sad and even heavy in tone, but it has humanity, pity and a certain cloying warmth. Only to be read, I would suggest, in the most expansive of pro-Eirean moods.

The best of this week's novels are translations from the French, and they are very good indeed, although both of them deal with the bitter themes of war's aftermath, and the reaction in France against disillusion and total cynicism. In a recent novel Sartre showed these cankers at work in the body of the country at the time of the fall of France ; here are two authors, both writers of distinction, who take the period at the end of the war and show how in Paris and in a provincial town, people felt about the tide of indifference and corruption that threatened to overwhelm them.

LOWBROW—PETER CHEYNEY WHOSE LATEST THRILLER IS NOW ON BOOKSTALLS: The Dark Bahama (Collins 8/6) has its setting in the West Indies which Mr. Cheyney visited a short while ago. The thriller is in the usual vigorous Cheyney manner.

The first novel is FANFARE IN BELMONT (Bodley Head, 10s.), by Marcel Ayme ; the second is THE COMPANY OF MEN (Michael Joseph, 9s. 6d.), by Romain Gary. Both of these are first-class works which I can wholeheartedly recommend.

Also high on the list of this week's book bag there is a delightful little book in the best tradition of Austrian frivolity, A SALZBURG COMEDY (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 7s. 6d.). Many of us remember that enchanting pre-war film about children, *Emil and the Detectives*, and this story is by the same hand, and was indeed written before the war, too. Mr. Erich Kastner has three assets which he can bring to the composition of a little piece of nonsense like this. He has a gossamer touch, he appreciates the theatrical beauty of Salzburg, and he has an impish sense of fun. A fourth asset might lie in the fact that his friend, Mr. Walter Trier, has admirably caught the mood of the story in his funny little water-colours, with which the book is illustrated.

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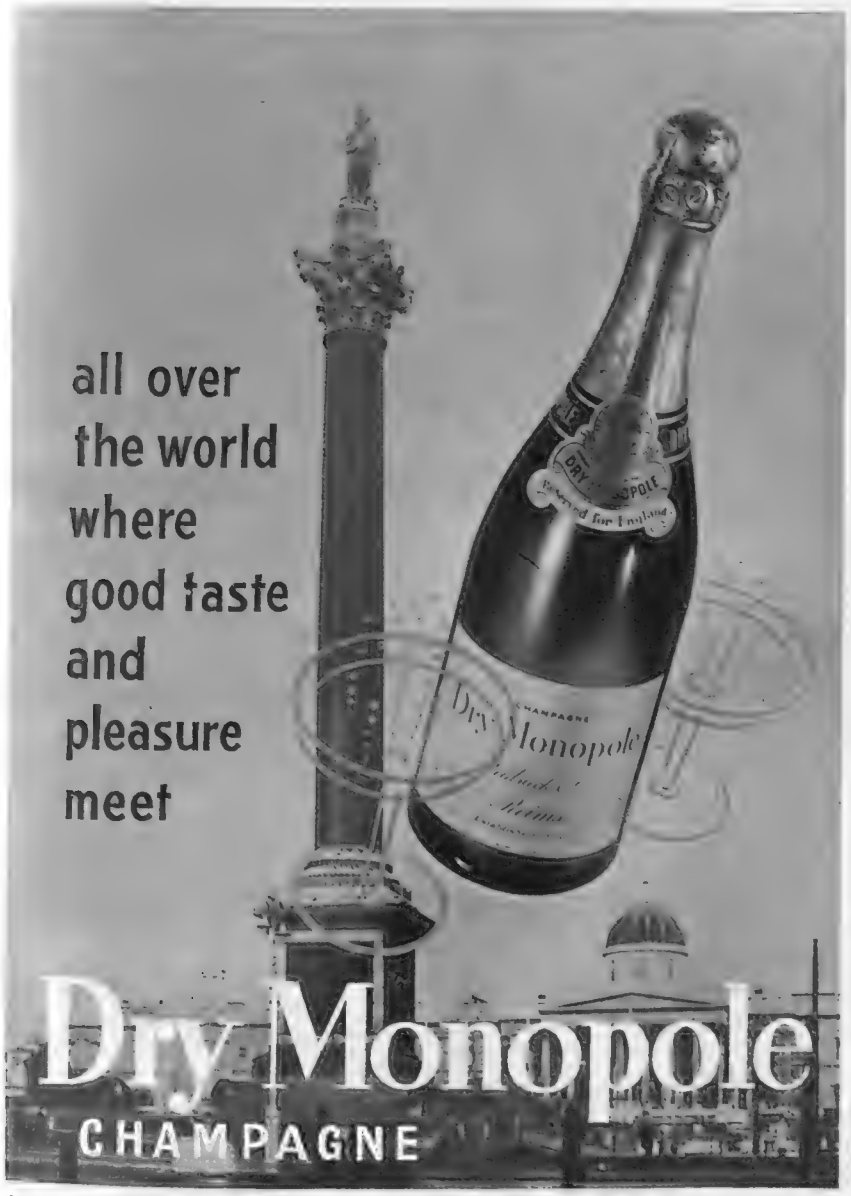

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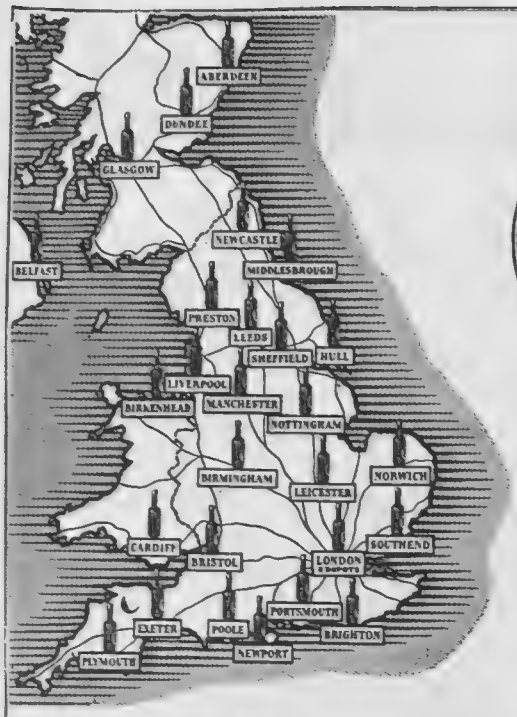

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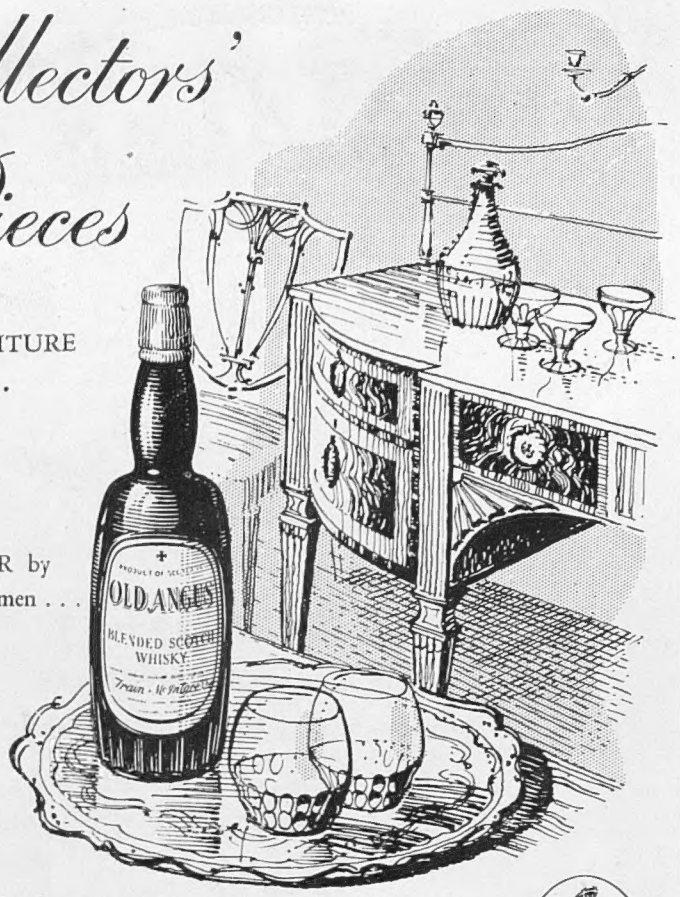

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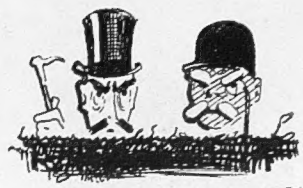

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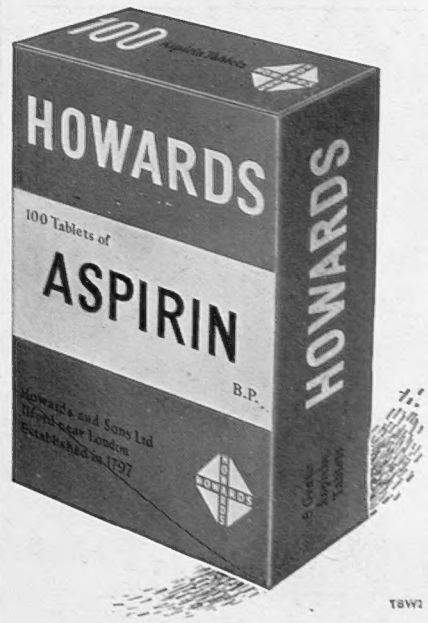

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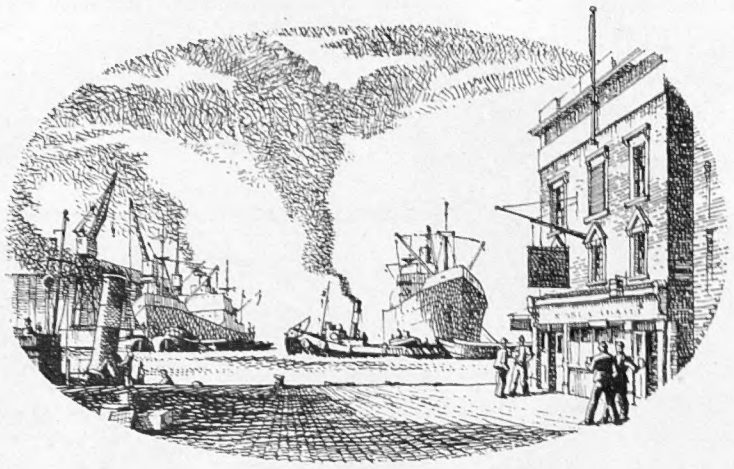

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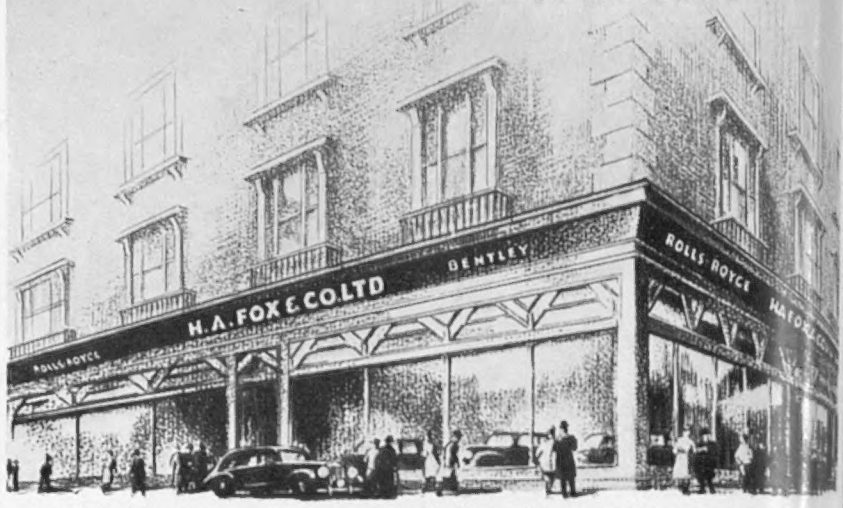

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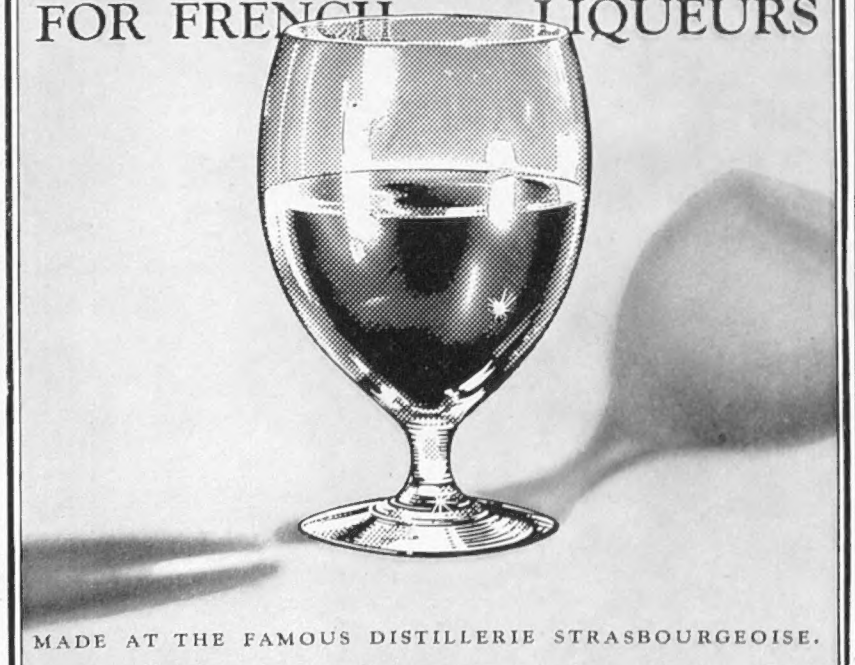

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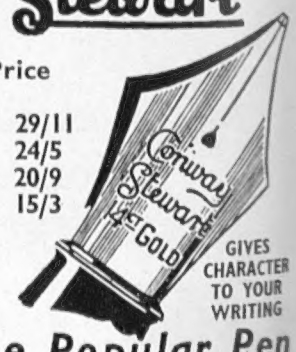

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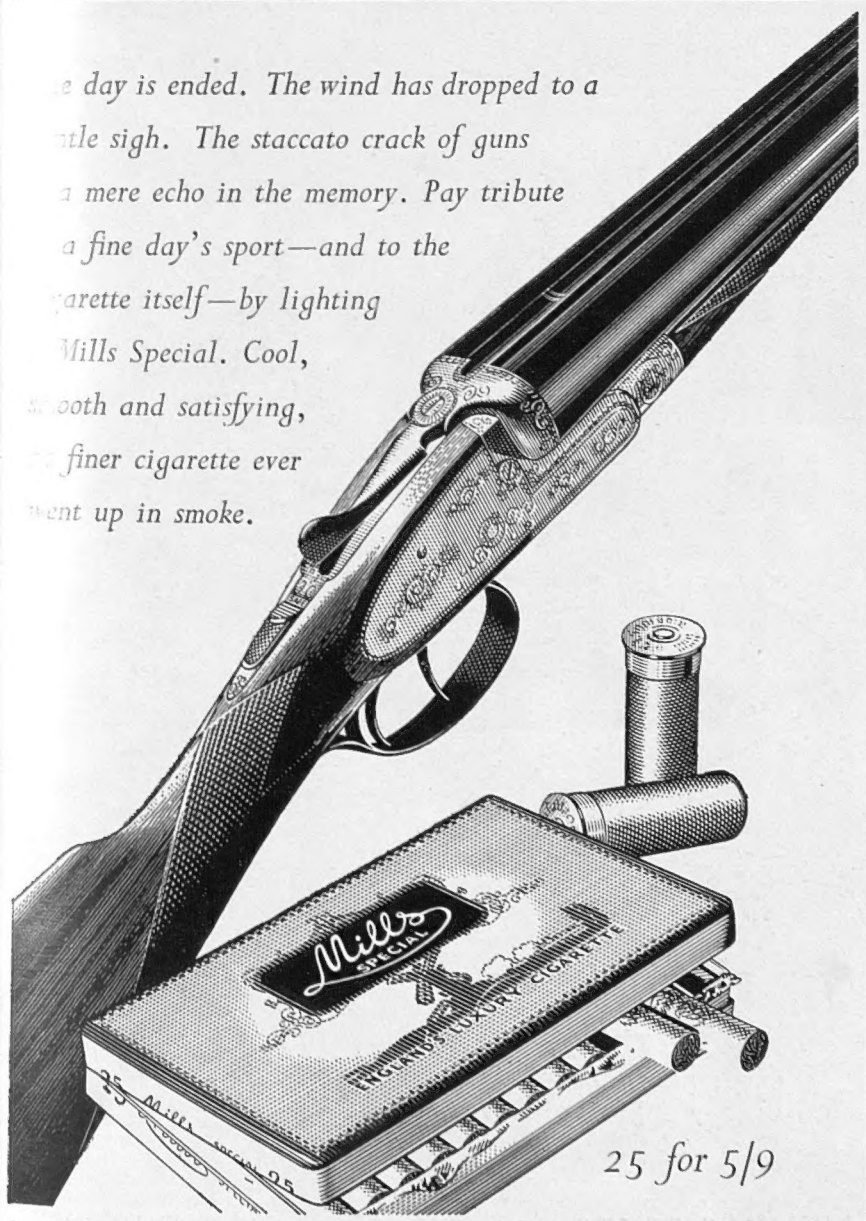

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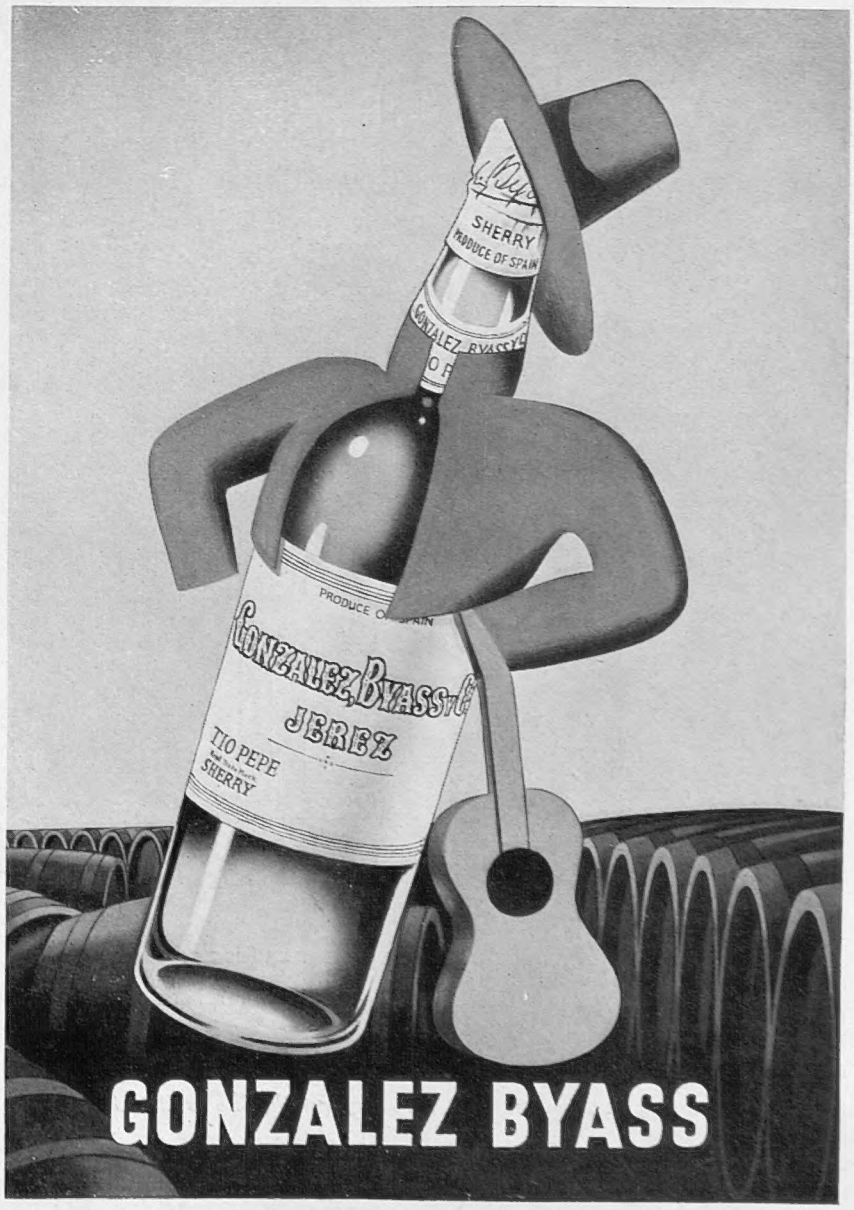

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